

Protecting Health in the Communities Surrounding Exide

March 8, 2016

Cynthia Harding, MPH
Interim Director
Los Angeles County Department of Public Health

Angelo Bellomo, REHS, QEP
Deputy Director for Health Protection
Los Angeles County Department of Public Health



Background on Exide

- Exide facility operated as a battery recycling plant for decades under a temporary permit
- Facility permanently closed in March 2015
- Environmental contamination from the facility extends approximately 1.75 miles
- 5,000-10,000 homes are potentially impacted

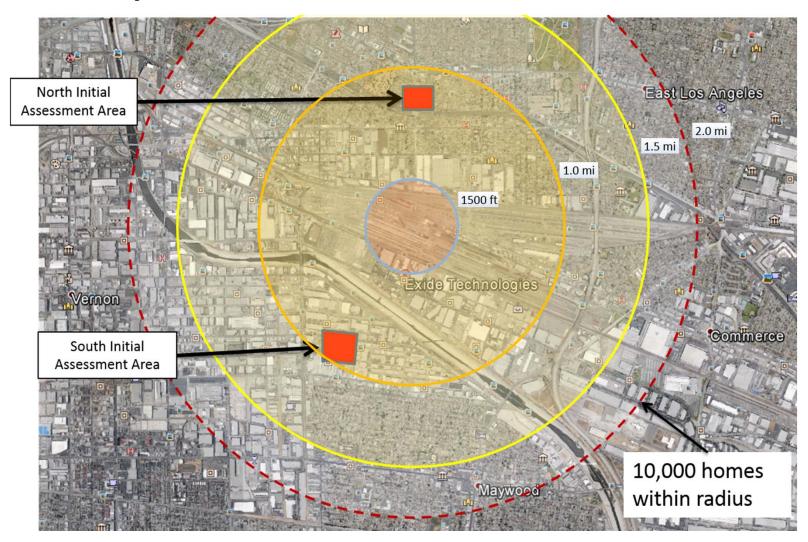


Possible Health Effects of Emissions

Chemical	Health Effects	
Lead	 Lower IQ, learning disabilities, behavior disorders, hearing problems, and abnormal bone growth in children Increased risk of violent crime and delinquent behavior in teens and adults Kidney and nerve damage, anemia, and high blood pressure Problems with fertility, mood, memory, coordination, and vision 	
Benzene	Increased risk of cancer (acute myelogenous leukemia)Anemia, immune system problems	
1,3-Butadiene	 Increased risk of cancer (stomach, blood, and lymphatic system) 	
Arsenic	 Increased risk of cancer (liver, bladder, lungs, and skin/soft tissue) Skin discoloration Lower life expectancy 	



Widespread Soil Contamination





Estimated Homes Requiring Cleanup per DTSC Protocol

Lead Concentration (mg/kg)	Regulatory Criteria	DTSC Cleanup Priority	Projected # of Homes
> 1,000	"Hazardous Waste" Level	1	1,000
> 400	Federal Residential Action Level	2	3,000
> 80	DTSC Residential Cleanup Level	3	6,000
	10,000		



County Advocacy for Assessment and Cleanup

- January 2016: Supervisor Solis, County staff, and community representatives meet with Legislators
- February 2016: Governor Brown proposes an additional \$176.6 million in the FY 15-16 budget
- February 2016: DeLeon/Lara amended SB 93 to allocate the \$176.6 proposed by the Governor
- February 2016: County took a supporting position on SB 93



Priority Activities

- Rapid assessment of residential properties potentially impacted by Exide
- Addressing the current and future health needs of residents in the affected neighborhoods
- Influencing State decision-making to address health needs of the communities near Exide with greater urgency



Assessment of Residential Properties

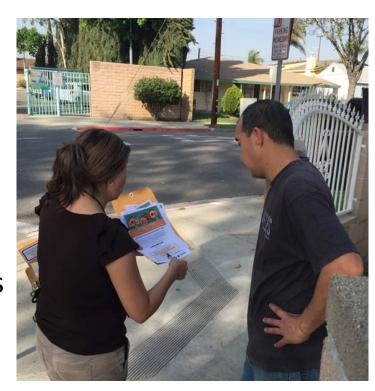
- DPH in Action
 - 12 three-person teams in the field
 - Goal of 500 properties tested and assessed by March 15, 2016





Addressing Current and Future Health Needs, In Partnership with DMH and DHS

- Launch healthcare access initiative
- Educate the medical community
- Promote childhood asthma prevention and interventions
- Collaborate with school districts



Next Steps

- Awaiting hearing date for SB93
- Monthly updates on our progress

